

Committed to a fair and equitable property tax system for Hoosier taxpayers.

Software Compliance and Gateway Updates

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May 21, 2015



Software Compliance

• 50 IAC 26-18 requires the Department to test and certify software vendors and counties that use the vendors' systems to verify that systems are operating within the standards laid out in 50 IAC 26.



Software Compliance

- 50 IAC 26 Software Compliance is broken down into three phases:
 - Phase I: Each system is tested and certified on its standalone functionality.
 - Phase II: Systems are paired, tested, and certified on their integrative functionality.
 - Phase III: Counties are tested and certified to determine that they are using systems that have been deemed Phase I and Phase II compliant and that the systems are operating accordingly in the field.



Software Compliance Status

- As of Monday, May 11, 2015:
 - The Department has performed testing in 83 of 92 assessor offices and 84 of 92 auditor offices.
 - The Department has completed its review of testing results at 83 of 92 counties.
 - The Department has received requests for certification from 79 of 92 counties.
 - The Department has issued Phase III certification to 78 of 92 counties.



Software Compliance's Future

- 50 IAC 26-18 requires the Department to certify county installations of software every five years.
- The next wave of county-level testing is currently scheduled for 2019-2020.



Software Compliance's Future

- Software vendors are required to submit documentation related to any system changes made.
 - If system changes are major, the Department may perform certification testing.
- The Department may also perform additional certification testing if legislative changes modify system requirements.



Software Compliance's Future

- Please note that the Department is a party to contracts between counties and property tax management software vendors.
- For questions related to contracts, especially if a county is switching software vendors, please contact the Department's Legal staff:
 - General Counsel Mike Duffy: <u>mduffy@dlgf.in.gov</u>
 - Staff Attorney Dave Marusarz: dmarusarz@dlgf.in.gov



Gateway Overview



Local Officials: Login Here »

An Open Door into Local Government Finance

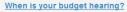
Gateway collects and provides access to information about how taxes and other public dollars are budgeted and spent by Indiana's local units of government.

















About Gateway . Contact Us . Contact Officials

Indiana Gateway for Government Units is the collection platform for local units of government to submit required data to the State of Indiana, as well as a public access tool for citizens. It represents a unique partnership between the State of Indiana and the <u>Indiana Business Research Center</u> at IU's Kelley School of Business, with Initial support from the Lilly Endowment and sustainable support from the State of Indiana.



https://gateway.ifionline.org



Gateway Overview

- Gateway URL: https://gateway.ifionline.org/
- Gateway serves two purposes:
 - Public Transparency
 - Data Collection
 - County auditors submit various forms and reports to the Department, including, but not limited to:
 - Budget forms
 - Debt reports
 - TIF reports
 - Other Post-Employment Benefits
 - Economic Development reports



Gateway: New in 2015

- The Department is implementing important changes to Certified Net Assessed Value submissions for the 2016 budget cycle.
- The Department is also implementing a tool to submit Form 22 through Gateway.
- Project Name: DECAF
 - <u>Data Entry for CNAV and Form 22</u>

- Net Assessed Values are certified by county auditors each summer.
- IC 6-1.1-17-1 requires county auditors to certify assessed values by August 1.
- For budget years through 2015, counties were required to manually enter CNAV data into a Gateway form.



- Beginning with the 2016 budget cycle, CNAV data may be uploaded or manually entered.
- CNAV Upload:
 - Tax & Bill vendors demonstrated the ability to generate CNAV extracts during 50 IAC 26 software compliance Phase I.
 - The upload will substantially reduce the need for manual data entry.



- Users will now indicate AVs before withholding, with a separate column to indicate withholding amounts.
- For the first time, conservancy AVs will be submitted through Gateway.



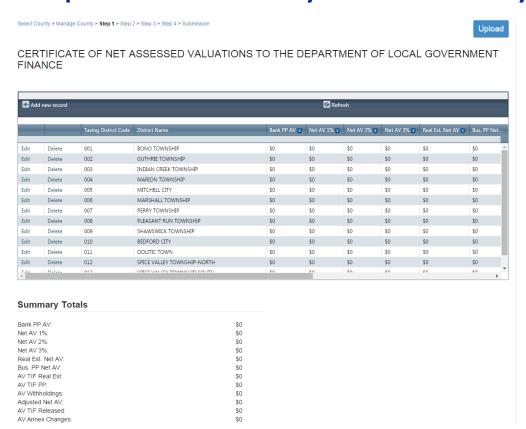
CNAVs will be submitted in a 4 step process.
 The process is similar to prior years, with an additional step for submission of conservancy assessed values.



- Step 1: Assessed Values by Taxing District
- Step 2: District/Fund Connection Assignment
- Step 3: Fund/District Connection Review
- Step 4: Conservancy AV entry



- Step 1: Assessed Values by Taxing District
- May be uploaded or keyed manually.





- Step 2: District/Fund Connection Assignment
- May be uploaded or keyed manually.
- Values roll forward from 2015.

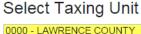
Select County > Manage County > Step 1 > Step 2 > Step 3 > Step 4 > Submission

Upload

District/Fund Selection

Select Taxing District

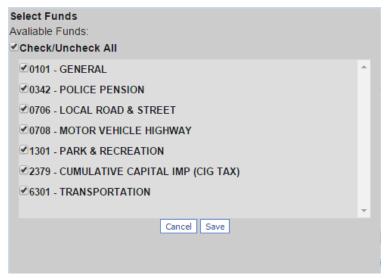
001 - BONO TOWNSHIP 002 - GUTHRIE TOWNSHIP 003 - INDIAN CREEK TOWNSHIP 004 - MARION TOWNSHIP 005 - MITCHELL CITY 006 - MARSHALL TOWNSHIP 007 - PERRY TOWNSHIP 008 - PLEASANT RUN TOWNSHIP 009 - SHAWSWICK TOWNSHIP 010 - BEDFORD CITY 011 - OOLITIC TOWN 012 - SPICE VALLEY TOWNSHIP-NORTH 013 - SPICE VALLEY TOWNSHIP-SOUTH







- Step 2: District/Fund Connection Assignment
- When an assignment is made, users are prompted to select applicable funds
 - Funds populate from prior year certified budget order data.





- Step 3: Fund/District Connection Review
- Users verify that each fund is assigned to at least one taxing district

Select County > Manage County > Step 1 > Step 2 > Step 3 > Step 4 > Submission

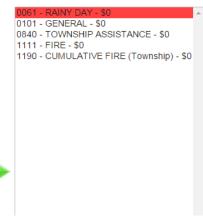
Review Connections



Select Taxing Units

0000 - LAWRENCE COUNTY 0001 - BONO TOWNSHIP 0002 - GUTHRIE TOWNSHIP 0003 - INDIAN CREEK TOWNSHIP 0004 - MARION TOWNSHIP 0005 - MARSHALL TOWNSHIP 0006 - PERRY TOWNSHIP 0007 - PLEASANT RUN TOWNSHIP 0009 - SPICE VALLEY TOWNSHIP 0015 - BEDFORD CIVIL CITY 0745 - OOLITIC CIVIL CITY 0745 - OOLITIC CIVIL TOWN 5075 - NORTH LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION 5085 - MITCHELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION 0135 - BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY 0136 - MITCHELL COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1001 - LAWRENCE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Select Funds





- Step 4: Conservancy AV entry
- Assessed Values have typically been submitted to the Department through email.
- Beginning with the 2016 cycle, conservancy
 AVs will be submitted through Gateway.



- Step 4: Conservancy AV entry
- Conservancy AVs are manually entered, even if the upload is used for prior steps.



- Please note that CNAV may not yet be accessed through Gateway.
- Application will be available for the 2016 budget cycle.
- Because the application is in the final stages of development, its appearance and functionality may differ from today's demonstration.



- Form 22s document distributions from county auditors to local units within the county.
 - June and December Distributions
 - Distribution types:
 - Property Tax
 - License Excise
 - Commercial Vehicle Excise
 - Financial Institution Tax
- Form 22s are currently submitted to the Department through email or hard copy.



- Form 22 data is used by budget field representatives during budget reviews.
- The Department currently enters data manually into a local government database.
 - Process is time-consuming and subject to entry error.



- Tax & Bill vendors demonstrated the ability to generate Form 22 extracts during 50 IAC 26 software compliance Phase I.
- The Department is working with Tax & Bill vendors on a small modification to file formats.
 - Updated file will normalize data.
 - New format will also provide improved flexibility.



- Target full-scale rollout: December 2015 distributions.
- Before full rollout, the Department will work with counties to generate Form 22 extracts and to compare to data submitted under legacy methods.



Form 22 Demonstration

- Please note that Form 22s may not yet be accessed through Gateway.
- Official roll-out date is TBD. Target is collection of December 2015 distributions.
- Because the application is in development and testing, its final appearance and functionality may differ from today's demonstration.



Gateway Training

- The Department is providing Gateway training to local officials from May 6 – June 10, 2015.
- Training is geared toward new officials, but users with all levels of experience are welcome.
- 40 training sessions.
- The Department currently projects over 600 attendees.
- Training materials may be downloaded from the Department's website at: http://www.in.gov/dlgf/2444.htm.



Contact Information

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